

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 15-20 are pending in the present application.

Independent claims 1, 15, 16 and 17 each include limitations not disclosed by, nor made obvious in view of, the prior art. Each of the independent claims is directed to a method, apparatus, or instructions in a machine-readable medium, respectively, for controlling a home audio/visual network device with a web browser. For example, “a first network allows control of devices with the web browser, wherein a second network does not allow control of devices with a web browser”. Claim 1 (and analogously claims 15 - 17) assigns an Internet protocol address to the device on the second network and then performs various steps to send control messages from the web browser to the device when messages are “sent to the IP address from the web browser on the first network” (claims 1, 15 and 16).

Importantly, the word “browser” does not even appear in either of cited references, Shteyn or Lea. The few times that these references discuss related technology, such as the Internet or a web site, it is only in relation to obtaining information and not to sending messages to control a device.

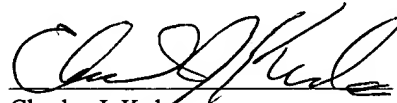
For example, Shteyn states that an object describing preferences can be retrieved “from, e.g., a web site given its URL”. Shteyn at col. 8, lines 66-67. A similar statement is made at col. 16, lines 30-33, where “references” can be retrieved from the “Internet”. Lea states that Device Control Modules “may come from a variety of sources . . . from a web or ftp site”. Lea at col. 21, lines 28-31. And that an “application program is originated by a service provider (e.g., via cable television, internet web site, etc.).” Col. 26, lines 63-65.

Thus, the prior art fails to discuss control of a device using a web browser, much less the specific steps of “assigning” (claim 17) or “assigning,” “associating,” “providing” and “receiving” (claims 1, 15 and 16) based on or using an “IP address” as recited in the present claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

October 13, 2004
Date


Charles J. Kulas
Reg. No. 35,809
Tel: 415-279-5098